AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A sewing thread comprising a plurality of under-twisted yarns ~~having upper-twist provided therewith~~, each of the under-twisted yarns being a sheath-core structure yarn composed of ~~two or more multifilament yarns~~a sheath yarn comprising sheath filaments and a core yarn comprising core filaments, the sewing thread having an upper-twist therein,

wherein a part of the sheath-core structure yarn protrudes as loops on a ~~yarn~~ surface of the sewing thread, the loops with 0.7 to less than 1.2 mm length are 50 to 300 loops per meter, and the loops with 1.2 mm or more length are 10 or less loops per meter.

2. (Original) The thread according to Claim 1, wherein the sewing thread has a strength of 4 to 6 cN/dtex.

3. (Original) The thread according to Claim 1, wherein a difference in yarn length between a core yarn and a sheath yarn of the sheath-core structure yarn is in the range of 2 to 20%.

4. (Original) The thread according to Claim 1, wherein a difference in yarn length between a core yarn and a sheath yarn of the sheath-core structure yarn is in the range of 3 to 10%.

5. (Original) The thread according to Claim 1, wherein an average

rate of variations in sewing tension of the thread is within ±10%.

6. (Withdrawn) A process for producing sewing threads comprising the steps of:

preparing core yarns from multifilament yarns with an overfeed rate of 0.5 to 5%;

preparing sheath yarns from multifilament yarns with an overfeed rate of 3.5 to 25%;

combining and entangling the core yarns and the sheath yarns;

under-twisting the combined .and entangled' yarns;

aligning a plurality of ,under-twisted yarns; and

upper-twisting the under-twisted yarns.

7. (Withdrawn) The process according to Claim 6, wherein a difference of the overfeed rate between the multifilament yarns to be the core yarns and the multifilament yarns to be the sheath, yarns is in the range .of 2 to 20%.

8. (Withdrawn) A nozzle comprising:

a yarn inlet;

a yarn outlet; and.

a fluid nozzle arranged between the yarn inlet and the yarn outlet;

wherein fluid is ejected from the fluid nozzle to a running multifilament yarn introduced from the yarn inlet so as to combine and entangle a core yarn and a sheath yarn, and

wherein a separator is provided between the yarn inlet and the fluid nozzle so as to separate the yarn with every introduced yarn.

9. (Withdrawn) The nozzle according to Claim 8, wherein the distance between 'the fluid nozzle and the separator is in the range of 0.5 mm to 10 mm.

10. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the thread comprises 2-7 under-twisted yarns.

11. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the under-twist and the upper-twist are in different directions.

12. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the thread has a twist coefficient between 4000 and 12000.

13. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the sheath-core structure yarn comprises two or more multifilament yarns.

14. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the sheath yarn and the core yarn of each of the under-twisted yarns have a difference in yarn length.

15. (New) The thread of claim 1, wherein the thread comprises two multifilament under-twisted yarns.